

EDMONSTONE

Colonel Archibald Edmonstone	Jane Beall
Emigrated 1680-83	}

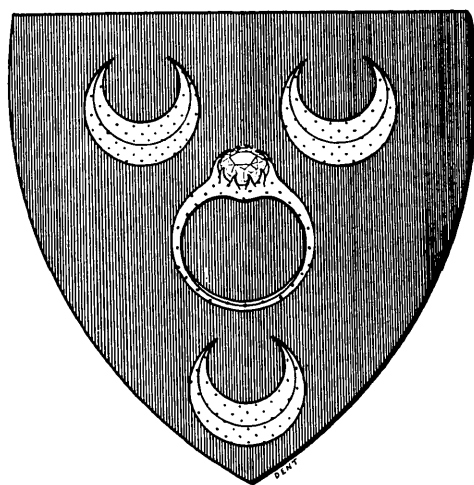
Archibald Edmonstone	Dorothy Brooke
_____	}
Lieut. Thomas Edmonstone	Mary Beall
_____	}
Dorothy Edmonstone	Benjamin Waters
_____	}
Mary A. E. Waters—Reuben Zimmerman	

The following account of the family of Edmonstone is taken from the Statistical Account of Scotland, Vol. 8, p. 77. Other sources of information concerning it can be found in "System of Heraldry by Alexander Nisbet, Gent., 1816." "Betham's Baronage of England, Vol. 3rd." "Collectanea Genealogica, Vol. 2, Foster," and the "Genealogy of the Lairds of Ednam, and Duntreith, Glasgow, 1699, reprinted by James Mardment, Edinburgh, 1824. 18 mo."

"The name of Edmonstone first appeared in the county of Mid-Lothian in the beginning of the thirteenth century. Tradition would, indeed, derive it 150 years earlier from an Edmundus of the family of the Counts Egmont of Flanders, who is said to have come to Scotland in the reign of Malcolm Canmore, and to have had a grant from David I., of the said lands, to which he gave his name; but there is no authority for this whatever; and it seems more than probable that the powerful race of Seton was the parent stock, as the whole district round was in possession of that family, and the arms are identical—and as the earliest appearance of the name of Edmonstone is in a charter where Henry de Edmonstone is styled "Filius E,"*

*The surname of Edmonstone derived from the lands of that name in the parish of Newton Mid-Lothian is one of great antiquity in Scotland. It certainly is as old as the reign of Alex. 11. Henricus de Edmonstone is mentioned in a charter of 1212. The origin of the name is "Edmund's Town."—Scotch Irish in America. Chas. Hanna, Vol. 2, p. 414.

EDMONSTONE



Edmonstone

Archibald Edmonston, of Braiden Island, County Antrim.

Arms—Gules a gem ring or, gemmed azure, between three crescents of the second.

Burke's Armoury.

this may have been the very Edmund who thus founded the family, and gave his name to the lands. In the middle of the following century, Sir John Edmonstone of Edmonstone appears a person of considerable importance, and was appointed by David II., coroner to the shire of Edinburgh in fee, accompanied by grants of land in the county of Banff.* His son of the same name was a person of still greater eminence and was named a commissioner for negotiating with England on three different occasions during the captivity of James I., A. D. 1407. He married the Lady Isabel, daughter of Robert II., and widow of James, Earl of Douglas and Mar, who was killed at the battle of Otterburne.† By this marriage he had two sons, Sir David, who succeeded him, and Sir William of Culloden, ancestor of the family of Duntreath. Sir David left two sons of whom Sir James, the elder, died without issue, male, and John, the younger, in whom the elder line of the family was continued till the middle of the last century, when it became extinct by the death of the last male heir. This branch of the family continued in possession of Edmonstone in Mid-Lothian until late in the seventeenth century, when it was sold to the family of Wauchope who still retain it. It resided likewise at Ednam, a grant of Robert III., in Roxburghshire.†† This last property, (Ednam) has been purchased within these few years by the Earl of Dudley. (Date of this account, 1845.)

To revert to the family of Duntreath, Sir William Edmonstone of Culloden, second son of Sir John, as above, married the Lady Mary, daughter of King Robert III., who had been married three times previously. From the last marriage the present family of Duntreath are lineally descended. This lady

*"John Edmonston, Sir John of that Ilk. The Ednam family bore two camels as supporters; and on a stone at Duntreath c 1600 engraved in Seton's 'Law and practice of Heraldry in Scotland' the shield of Sir James of Duntreath is represented as resting on the hump of a camel. Mr. Laing describes the crest on the seal of Sir William of Duntreath in 1470 as a horse's (?) head, issuing from a ducal coronet; and at a later period a swan's head and neck were used also issuing from a coronet."—*Scottish Arms 1370-1678*. Vol. 2. Stodart.

†Robert II., was the grandson and namesake of the great Robert Bruce, his mother being Marjory Bruce, who married Walter Stuart. It was thus that the crown came to the House of Stuart.

††According to the late newspaper account of General Wauchope who was killed in the Boer War in South Africa in 1900, his family inherited the Edmonstone estate in Mid-Lothian, through marriage of an ancestor with a female heir to that estate.

was interred in a vault beneath the church of Strathblane, and an inscription was put up to her memory in the family vault of Duntreath by the late Sir Archibald Edmonstone. (Date of this account, 1845). At what period the Castle of Duntreath was built, is unknown, but the whole of the district originally belonged to the powerful family of the Lennoxes. At the attainer and decapitation of Duncan, the last Earl of this family, (together with his son-in-law, Murdac, Duke of Albany, and two of his grandsons), the property, some portion of it at least, on the return of James I., from his long captivity, was allowed to remain in possession of the Duchess of Albany as heiress to her father; and she made a grant of the lands of Duntreath, erected into a barony, to Sir William Edmonstone of Culloden and Mary, Countess of Angus, his wife, A. D., 1452, which grant was confirmed by a charter of James II., and it has ever since remained the principal seat of the family.

For the next century the house of Duntreath continued in the highest degree prosperous. Its wealth and possessions had considerably increased, and appanages were bestowed on many of its junior branches, nearly all of which are now extinct. A succession of honorable alliances, too, had greatly tended to keep up its respectability. Sir William, (the fourth in descent from the first Sir William of Duntreath) was steward of Menteith, and constable of the Castle of Doune. He was killed at the battle of Flodden, with King James IV., and the flower of the Scottish nobility and gentry. His son, Sir William, continued in the same offices, by the Regent, John, Duke of Albany, which he held for eighteen years, but a heritable grant of them having been conferred by James V., on Sir James Stewart (ancestor of the present Earl of Moray) Sir William and his brother, Archibald, were much irritated at being thus deprived of what had now for so many years been in possession of their family, and a fray ensued in the High St of Dunblane, in which Sir James was killed. This event occurred on Whitsunday, A. D., 1543. A pardon for this offence was afterward granted to the two brothers, under the Great Seal, by the Regent, Duke of Chatelherault, and being connected with the royal family in consequence of his marriage with Lady Agnes Stewart, daughter to Matthew, Earl of Lennox, (grandfather to Henry, Lord Darnley, the unfortunate husband of Queen Mary) Sir William, was made one of the Privy Council during the Queen's minority.

His son, Sir James, was appointed Justice-Deputy under the Earl of Argyle, Justice-General, and was named one of the

assessors on the trial of the Earl of Gowrie for the celebrated conspiracy against the liberty of King James VI., called the Raid of Ruthven, A. D., 1582. But he appears himself implicated in a plot of the same nature soon after. He was accused, together with three others of the names of Douglas, Cunningham and Hamilton, of a design to convey the King to some place of confinement till those lords who had left the country in consequence of their concern in the above conspiracy, should be advertised. It was believed to have been little more than an idle conversation; however, the four were seized and indicted for high treason. Sir James pleaded guilty, and threw himself on the King's mercy. The others convicted of having held this treasonable design, were executed. Sir James seems to have acted an unworthy part in this business, and being pardoned, he retired to Duntreath which he considerably enlarged. A stone with his arms and cypher, but without a date, marks this. The estate, however, was mortgaged by his son and successor, William, to Sir William Livingston of Kilsyth, and considerable estates purchased in the counties of Down and Antrim, in the north of Ireland.* Fortunately however, his next successor, Archibald, resold some of the Irish purchases, and redeemed the estate of Duntreath, though the family residence continued to be for above a century, chiefly at Red Hall, in a district called Broadisland, in the county of Antrim. This Archibald was a strict Presbyterian, and being returned member for the county of Stirling in the Parliament which met at Edinburgh in 1633, in presence

*"May 28th, 1609, John Dalway made a fee farm lease forever of the lands of braidenisland containing 2,870 acres to William Edmonstone, laird of Duntreath at the yearly rent of £160, 9s., 4d., being one mark Scotch per acre. In this deed Edmonstone was bound to furnish five able horsemen properly equipped to attend every year for forty days the *general hostings* of the Lord Deputy. He was also bound to furnish five days labour of his tenants and horses to draw timber and slates for a castle about to be built by John Dalway near Ballynure—and within five years to build a mansion of "Lyme and stone covered with slate which shall cost in the building £300 ster." In the same deed twelve acres of land "of good arable pasture and meadow" are also granted forever, to be annexed as "glebable land to and for the Parish Church of Templecoram."—Hist. of Carrickfergus, McSkimin, p. 395.

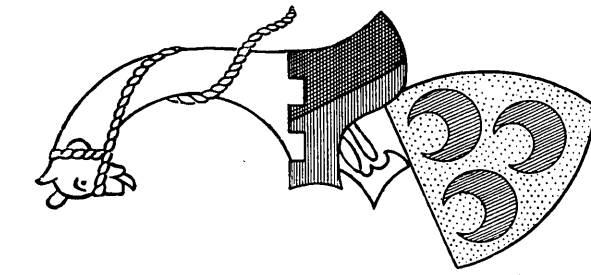
"It would be tedious to enumerate all the substantial persons whom he (Sir Hugh Montgomery) brought, or who came to plant in Gray Abbey Newton, and corner parishes, among whom Sir Wm. Edmeston 7th Laird of the ancient honorable family of Duntreath was very considerable, both for purse and people, but after some years he sold his estate and settled his family in Broad Island, and there built two slated houses on ye Dalway's estate, near Carrickfergus."—From the "Montgomery Manuscripts"—Scotch Irish in America, Hanna, Vol. 2, p. 289.

of King Charles I., he strongly opposed every effort made by that monarch for the establishment of Episcopacy in Scotland.* He had two sons, William and Archibald. Of these, the elder, known as the Dumb Laird of Duntreath, was disinherited, and put under the tutelage of his brother, on account of having been born deaf and dumb. He was, however a person of great vivacity and cheerfulness, with a very retentive memory, and according to a portrait that exists of him, of a handsome and intelligent countenance. It is recorded moreover, that he had a strong sense of religion; and a tradition is preserved that he was endowed with the faculty of second sight. He lived to a very advanced age. A tower at Duntreath which he is said to have occupied, still preserves his name. The inheritance in consequence of the infirmity of the elder, devolved upon the younger brother, Archibald. He followed the same line as his father, in opposing the tyrannical acts of the government in their endeavor to establish Episcopal jurisdiction—and was fined and imprisoned for holding a conventicle in the private chapel of his house of Duntreath. After his release he retired to Ireland, and died in consequence of his exertions in defending the fort of Culmore, contiguous to Londonderry at the period of the famous siege of that city by King James II., A. D., 1689. He was succeeded by his son and namesake who appears to have resided chiefly at Red Hall so that Duntreath fell into decay. He represented the county of Antrim in the Irish Parliament

“* * * The Castle of Duntreath stands on the north side of the Blane water near the opening of the narrow and beautiful strath to which that stream gives its name. To the south rises the conical hill of Dungoiach covered with natural wood; and across the valley opposite is another hill clothed likewise with wood called the Park Hill. Tradition asserts that it was once intended to build the castle here instead of the valley below. The top has certainly been levelled and a regular way formed up to it. The noble range of the Campsie Hills which intersect the western end of the county of Stirling, is finely terminated by the bold heads of Dumbgoyn and Dumbfoyn. The castle is approached from the west through a detached gate-house and is rather of a rude construction, built

*Edmonston, Braiden Island, Co. Antrim. Funeral entry of Archibald Edmonston of that place, buried in the parish church of Templecoram, grandson of Sir James Edmonston, Knt of Duntreath in the Sheriffdom of Stirling.

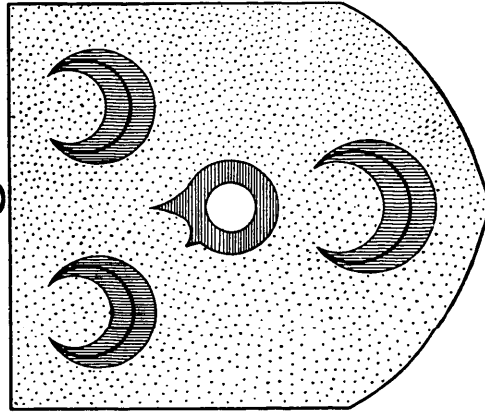
Gu. a gem ring or, gemmed az betw three crescents of the second.—Burke's Armoury.



Jean Etmoston

• 1359-81 •

Edmoufoun of Duntrefh.



• 1470 •

Ancient Edmonstone Arms

From
Scottish Arms—1370-1678.
Stodart. Vol. I. pp. B and 91.

round a quadrangle. The north and east sides are completely in ruins, having been unroofed and left to decay about a century ago. In the former of these sides is the chapel of which according to tradition the gallery once gave way during the service, and several persons were injured. The southern front was never finished. In the southeastern part of it, is the Dumb Laird's Tower. The castle is surrounded by a park or policy of moderate extent but very agreeably varied; and the scenery of the whole unites cultivation and romantic beauty, in no common degree."

The above account was written in 1845, the family line being continued down to 1832. The son of the last Sir Archibald, mentioned above, was created a Baronet in 1774, and he sold his Irish estates and established himself in his native county of Stirling. The family with a restored Duntreath is still in existence, the present heir (1902) bearing the favorite family name of Archibald.

Our ancestor, **Archibald Edmonstone**, according to tradition reached Maryland about 1680-83. All indications point to the conclusion that he was from the family settled in County Antrim, Ireland, the Edmonstones of Red Hall and Braiden Island. The Presbyterians in Ireland suffered greatly for their faith. Briggs in his History of American Presbyterianism, says, "During the troublous times from 1670-80 a considerable number of families removed from the north of Ireland to the Barbadoes, Maryland and Virginia." And from the History of Francis Makemie is this, "About the year 1680, violent persecutions of Presbyterians in Ireland took place—this included * * * Down and Antrim. William Traill one of the ministers was summoned to the Privy Council of Dublin and fined and imprisoned for a year. After his release in 1682, he went to Maryland." It is possible and probable that Archibald Edmonstone emigrated at the same time.

The following extract may be of value, as giving a possible clue to his parentage, "After the battle of Worcester on May 23rd, 1653, the commissioners in Dublin issued a proclamation for removing the popular Scots of Ulster. This proclamation specified the "conditions on which it was proposed to transplant the leading Presbyterians in the counties of Down and Antrim, to certain districts in Munster." This proclamation was accompanied with a list of 260 persons including all those who by their known attachment to monarchical and Presbyterian principles, and by their station and influence were most obnoxious to the reigning faction. * * * Broadisland and

East Quarters of Carrickfergus. * * * Capt. Edmonston." Scotch Irish in America, Hanna, Vol. 1, p. 604. The fact that Capt. Edmonston, evidently an active rebel was banished to Munster, made it easier for his son to take ship for America. Possibly poverty as well as religious presecution drove him, Archibald, to these shores. Tradition says that the party of Scotch or Scotch Irish immigrants came first to Baltimore County, Md.,—but the first mention of Archibald Edmonstone in either deed or archives, places him in Prince George County, where a band of Scotch immigrants were already established. The leading Scotchman at that time on the western shore of Maryland, was Colonel Ninian Beall and Archibald Edmonstone married his daughter **Jane Beall**. The following deed taken from the records of Prince George County attests this:

Ninian Beall of Prince George County, "out of the love and affection, I bear towards my loveing son-in-law, Archibald Edmonston, and for divers other good causes me there unto moving, have by these presents given, granted, made over, and assigned unto him, the said Archibald Edmondson, his heirs and assigns forever, One Negro Woman called Moll, aged about sixteen years, together with all children that she shall or may have after the date of these presents. And I do hereby for me, my heirs, Exctrs, Admrs. and Assigns warrant and defend the said Negro Woman and her Issue from the Claim or demand of all and every person or persons whatsoever. In witness whereof I have hereunto put my hand and seal this 19th day of May, 1711."—Ninian Beall.

Signed, Sealed and delivered in the presence of

R. Bradly,

Patrick Hepburn, E 68.

In Maryland Archives, Vol. 20, Archibald Edmonstone is mentioned as civil magistrate and civil officer of Prince George County, Md., in 1694. In a deed transferring land, he is put down as "Captain and Gentlemen." "Nov. 2nd, 1716, Thomas Sprigg of Prince George County, conveys to Capt. Arch. Edmonston of the same county, Gent., all that tract of land called Bear Garden beginning near the head of a small branch that falleth into the Rocky Branch of the Potomack, etc.,"*

Captain Archibald Edmonstone patented extensive tracts of land in Prince George County, Md., and after the division of the counties these tracts were some of them in Frederick County, others in Montgomery County, and still others in Washington County, Md. He is said to have succeeded Colonel Ninian Beall, his father-in-law, in the command of the

*This tract of land, Bear Garden, whose situation is so quaintly described in the deed, descended in part to Dorothy Edmonstone, who married Benjamin Waters in 1812.

militia in Prince George County and thus acquired the title of Colonel. In 1704, he is mentioned as one of the elders of the Presbyterian Church erected on the Patuxent River (presumably at Upper Marlborough, Prince George County) on land deeded the Presbyterians by Colonel Ninian Beall. This was the first church of that faith on the Western shore of Maryland.

The many land deeds in the name of Archibald Edmonstone, as well as his will, show him to have been for the times, a man of substance. His wife, Jane Beall, died some years before his demise in 1733/4. He was interred in the graveyard about the church of which he was an elder, as will be seen later on, from the family record of his son-in-law, the Rev. John Orme. In a deed concerning land claimed by two parties is this—"Sept. 29th, 1731, Archibald Edmonston aged sixty years and upwards, being duly sworn, etc." Prince Geo. Co.

The "upwards" being very indefinite we can assume that he was seventeen or eighteen years of age when he left his home in Ireland.

The children of Colonel Archibald Edmonstone and his wife, Jane Beall, were as follows:

Captain James, born 1699. Died 1753. Married to Mary Beall, daughter of Ninian Beall, Jr.—Justice, Prince George County, 1741-51.

Mary, married James Beall, Jr., son of James Beall, Sr.

Archibald, died 1779. Married Dorothy Brooke (born 1709).

Eleanor, married Edward Offutt.

Margaret, married William Smith.

Ninian, died young.

Ruth, married Rev. John Orme, March 14th, 1720. He was born in Wiltshire, Eng., Jan. 21st, 1691. Died 1767.

Martha, married Thomas Allen.

Thomas, married Elizabeth Offutt.

Archibald Edmonstone, Jr., married **Dorothy Brooke**, daughter of Roger Brooke, Jr., (see Brooke). Archibald's plantation was in Frederick County, Md., and beyond land deeds there is no record of him. His wife was born in 1709 (see Brooke), and died in 1780. He died in 1779, and was buried in a family graveyard near the Little Falls of the Potomac.* Their children were:

*This old graveyard has been visited by the writer. Sunken stones abound, most of them but a few inches above the ground, besides a few stones of comparatively recent date. The tradition that it was the burial place of Edmonstones, Bealls, Magruders and Whites was confirmed by

Roger, born 1730. Married Martha Orme.

Jane.

Elizabeth.

Mary, married John Orme.

Priscilla, married Robert Orme.

Dorothy.

Ann Henrietta, married Nathan Orme.

Margaret Smith.

Thomas, married Mary Beall.

Thomas Edmonstone, the next in the family line, married **Mary Beall**, daughter of Captain Alexander Beall (see Alex. Beall). Thomas Edmonstone served in the War of the Revolution first as Ensign under Brig. Gen'l Rezin Beall, then as Lieutenant, and was in the battle of Harlem Heights, Sept. 16th, 1776. He resided in Montgomery County, Md., where he died in 1805. Mary Beall, his wife, died in 1815 in Alexandria, Va. They were buried in the family graveyard above mentioned. Their children were:

Edward, married Peggy —.

Alexander, died young.

Elizabeth, married Andrew Schofield of a well known Quaker family of Maryland, and became not only a convert to the faith, but a preacher of prominence among the Friends of Montgomery County, Md. Both died in Alexandria, Va., and were there buried.

Dorothy.

Robert, married Polly Waters, Nov. 25th, 1804.

Thomas, married Ruth.

Eden, married Lucretia Waters, June 1, 1809.

Dorothy Edmonstone, born 1788, second daughter of Thomas Edmonstone and his wife Mary Beall, married Benjamin Waters (see Waters) Sunday, April 20th, 1812, in Montgomery County, Md. Tradition states that the couple set out

the late Mr. George Brooke who had always lived in the vicinity, and whose memory went back many years. The spot is but a short distance from Washington, D. C., near the Conduit (Potomac River) Road. The land while changing owners, was always in the Beall, Edmonstone, Magruder families. The following extracts of land deeds refer to the place.

"Elizabeth Edmonston of Kentucky sold, Jan. 21st 1816, to George Beall Magruder, lot of land adjoining said Magruder's land on the main public road from George Town to the mouth of Wats' Branch, known by the name of the Potomac River Road, 2 acres."—Liber T. Folio, 296, Montgomery Co. Deeds.

"George B. Magruder conveys to Llewellyn Lodge, land called "Friendship," surveyed for Charles Beall and Thomas Fletchall, May 2nd, 1715." "Reserving and excepting, nevertheless, one square acre of ground to include the old burying ground which it is understood the said George B. Magruder excludes from the sale and reserves to himself and a right of way to and from it." Liber. B. S. No. 11, Folio 428, Ibid.

on horseback immediately after the ceremony, riding to Alexandria, Va., where they settled. She died in 1854.

Either form of spelling this family name, either with or without the terminal "e" seems to be correct. The Scottish records show both ways of spelling it and the same is true of the name in Maryland records. In the census of Maryland, 1790, recently published, our ancestor, Thomas, is put down as Thomas Edmonstone of Montgomery County. Md. It was even sometimes corrupted into Edmonson. In ancient days, spelling forms do not seem to have been much observed. Colonel Archibald Edmonstone's coat of arms the writer hesitates to decide upon, for the cadet branches of such a large family assumed different crests and colorings upon their shields. An examination of the Edmonston and Edmonstone arms in Burke's General Armoury shows the three crescents in every shield. The arms of Edmonstone, Newton, Scotland; of Edmonston of Braiden Island, and Edmonstone of Bellewen and Broick the two last of Ireland, all show the marks of cadency, or younger sons—such as the crescent, mullet, or annulet in the honor point.

The shield of Edmonstone of Duntreath, County Stirling, Bart., still bears the tressure or wreath. The shields of the cadet branches, do not. "In Nisbet, mention is made of the seal of Sir William Edmonstone of Culloden and Duntreath (who died in 1473), as exhibiting the tressure to indicate his Royal descent, through his mother and grandmother who were both 'daughters of the Crown.'" The same authority (Scottish Heraldry, Seton, p. 119) also says, "The Setons and Edmonstones of Duntreath whose common descent has been conjectured from the identity of their arms,—Or, three crescents, within a double tressure flowered and counterflowered, gules."

The writer was once shown a deed, preserved by the Maryland Historical Society in the handwriting of Colonel Archibald Edmonstone. The paper was dropping to pieces but the writing was clear and dignified. There was evidence of a seal having been placed below the signature, but it was gone. That seal might have revealed his exact home in Ireland. Also, in his will, he leaves to his son, Archibald, a cane. The head of that cane may have borne his crest, but it is irrevocably lost. Colonel Ninian Beall named one of his patents of land "Red Hall" and the inference is, that it was so named in honor of his son-in-law, who may have come from the old

Edmonstone estate called Red Hall, in County Antrim, Ireland. That the eldest son of Colonel Archibald bore the family name of James, seems another link in the chain of probabilities. All things considered, the writer gives him the arms borne by the grandson of Sir James Edmonstone of Duntreath, Archibald Edmonston of Braiden Island, County Antrim.

Arms.—"Gu, a gem ring or, gemmed az., betw. three crescents of the second." Burke's General Armoury.

WILL OF ARCHIBALD EDMONSTONE, SENIOR. PRINCE GEORGE COUNTY, MD.

In the name of God, Amen. I, Archibald Edmonston of Prince George County in the Province of Maryland being in good Health of body & of sound and perfect mind and Memory, praise therefore be given to Almighty. I doe make and ordain this my present Last Will and testament in manner and forme as followeth: first, I Commend my Soul into the hands of Almighty, hoping that through the Merriits, Death and Pashtion of my Saviour, Jesus Christ, to obtaine pardon and forgiveness of all my Sins and to inheritt Everlasting life, and my Body I committ to the Earth to be decently Buried att the Discretion of my Wife, Jane Edmonston, whome I leave and appoint to be my Sole Administratrix over my whole personall Estate and as to such temporall Estate as itt hath pleased God to bestow upon me. I give and dispose therrof as followeth.

Imprimis, itt is my Will that all my just Debts and funerall Charges be paid without Suite of Law or trouble by my administra'x above Mentioned.

Item.—I give unto my Son, James Edmonston, all my Wearing apparell.

Item.—I give unto my Daughter, Mary Beal, the Sume of ten pounds.

Item.—Unto my Daughter, Eleanor Offutt, the sume of ten Pounds.

Item.—I give unto my daughter, Ruth (sic).

Item.—I give unto my Son, Archibald Edmonston, the sum of twenty Shillings and my Cane.

Item.—I give unto my Daughter, Martha Allen, my now Dwelling plantation with the Land thereunto belonging, itt being part of a tract of Land Dunkell, unto her and her Heirs for Ever, after the decease of my Wife, Jane Edmonson.

Item.—I give to my Son-in-law, Thomas Allenn, Two hundred Acres of Land to be laid out of two tracts of Land, the one Called Dear Park, the other Bear Garden Enlarged, to be laid out in the Outermost Bounds of the s'd two Tracts to the East North East of the Plantation my Son, Ninian Edmonston, formerly lived on and Joyning to my Son, Archibald Edmonson's Land, to him and his Heirs for ever.

Item.—I give unto my Daughter, Allenn, One Negro Man named Samm, and one feather bed and furniture.

Item.—I give unto my Grand Daughter, Jane Allen, One pound, five Shillings to pay for a year's Schooling.

Item.—I give unto my Son, Thomas Edmonson, the remaining part of the two Tracts of Land before mentioned, Call'd Dear Park and bear Garden Enlarged, and also a tract of Land called the Goar, being on the Eastern Branch of Potomock, Containing two Hundred Acres and allso a tract Call'd the Addition to the Goar, containing Sixty Acres with the Improvements on all the afors'd Lands, and also one Mulato Man named, John or Jock, and one Negroe Girl nam'd Delle, to him and his heirs for ever.

Item.—itt is my Will that, if my Son, Thomas Edmonson, die without

heirs of his Body lawfully begotten, that then, the two parts of the tracts of Land Call'd Dear Park and bear Garden Enlarg'd fall to my Son, Archibald Edmonson, and those call'd the Goar and the Addition to the Goar to my Son, James Edmonson.

Item.—I give unto my Dear and Loving wife, Jane Edmonson, One Negroe Man Named, Tony; One negroe Woman call'd Moll; one other Negroe Woman call'd Sarah; one other Call'd Clarr; also two other Negroe Men call'd Cephas and Ammede, to her and her Heirs for ever.

Item.—I give the remaining part of my Personal Esteat to be equally Divided between my Wife, Jane Edmonson, and my Son, Thomas Edmonson.

Item.—itt is my will that the Negroe and Malatta with the Part of the Personal Esteat before left to my Son, Thomas Edmonson, be kept in the Possession of my Wife, Jane Edmonson, untill he arrive att the age of twenty-One years and that he have his Education out of the Labour of the Negraw and Mulatta Labour, and that the remaining part of the benefitt of their labour and the benefitt Accruing on the part of the Personal Esteat left him, be kept in my Wife's Possession for him till he arrive att the age of twenty-One years.

Item.—itt is my Will that my son, Thomas Edmonson, have the benefitt of his Labour att the age of seventeen yeares.

Item.—itt is my Will that my Son, James Edmonson, inspect into the Behavior of and Deportment my Son, Thomas Edmonson, and he be under their Controulment during his Minority.

Item.—I give unto Mr. Clement Hill and his Heirs for Ever the other halfe parte or Moyte of a tract of Land Called Cool Spring Levells, according to the Quantity and Quality of the s'd land, the one half of which I have Convey'd by Deed of Gift to my daughter, Eleanor Offutt.

Item.—I do hereby revoak and make Voyd all former Wills by me made, as Witness my hand & Seal this Thirteenth day of March, One thousand Seven Hundred and Thirty four.

ARCHIBALD EDMONSTON. [Seal.]
Probate, June 28th, 1734.

Witnesses
George Wells.
Samuel White.
William Beall.
Elizabeth White.

WILL OF ARCHIBALD EDMONSTONE, JR.

In the name of God, Amen. I, Archibald Edmonston of Frederick County, Maryland make this my last Will and Testament in manner & form following:

Imprimis.—I give and bequeath all my personal Estate to my beloved Wife, Dorothy Edmonston, to her and her heirs forever.

Item.—I give my Daughter, Jane, five shillings.

Item.—I give my Daughter, Elizabeth, five shillings.

Item.—I give my Grandson, Archibald Brooke Beale, a tract of Land called, addition to Deer Park, to him and his heirs forever, with the Land I purchased of Nicholas Jackson, to him and his heirs forever.

Item.—I give to my Daughters, Mary, Priscilla, Dorothy, Ann Henrietta and Margaret Smith Edmonston a tract of Land called, Sisters Goodwill, with the addition of Sisters Goodwill, a tract of Land called, Debate, and one other tract called, Locus Thickett, to be equally divided to them and their heirs. it is my desire that my friends, James Richard and Basil Brooke, should take upon them the division of the aforesaid Lands, in

case they should not agree in the division among themselves and to allow the said Gentlemen a Guinea apeace for their trouble to be paid by my Executrix hereafter mentioned.

Item.—I give and devise unto my beloved sons, Roger and Thomas Edmonston, all the residue and remainder of my Lands to be equally divided between them and their heirs forever, only, Thomas to have that part of the Land where I now dwell in his part of the division.

Item.—I hereby revoke & make null all Other Wills formerly made & do apoint my Wife, Dorothy Edmonston, Sole Executrix & do make and Ordain this, my last Will and Testament.

ARCHIBALD EDMONSTON. [Seal.]
Probate, Jan. 9th, 1779.

Signed, sealed, pronounced, published & declared by the Testator to be his last Will and Testament. Made before us this eight day of Dec., one thousand seven hundred and sixty-four.

Nancy Brashear.
Musgrave Simpson.
Mary Simpson.

WILL OF THOMAS EDMONSTONE.

In the name of God, Amen. I, Thomas Edmonstone of Montgomery County in the state of Maryland, being sick and weak of Body, tho' of sound, disposing mind, memory and Understanding Do make, publish and Declare this to Be my last will and Testament in manner and form following, That is to say,

1st.—I give, Bequeath and devise unto my son, Edward Edmonston, his heirs for ever that part of a tract of land called Green Land, whereon he now dwells and all that I now hold or am Intitled to of a tract of Land call'd Tom's Lott, it is also my will and Desire that he shall be paid out of my Estate all Reasonable Expenses that he may be at in settling the Estate of my late Son, Alexander.

2nd.—I give, Bequeath and Devise unto my son, Eden Edmonstone, and his heirs forever all that part of dear park Enlarged and Edmonstons Range, Lying South of A line beginning at the end of the Forty sixth Line of dear park and Running thence in a straight line North, Nineteen Degrees East, Over the Middle of A Rock Stone near a Maple Spring to Intersect the Second Line of the Dividing Line Between Roger Edmonston and Thomas Edmonston, and running with the said Second line to the end thereof, Being at the end of sixteen perches on the twentieth line of the Resurvey or dear park to hold all that part of Land South of the afforesaid lines Down to Odels Road. I give also to my said son, Eden, one Negro Boy named Ben, and one Negro Girl named, Sophiah, and her increase also one Feather Bed and Furniture.

3rd.—I give and bequeath to my Daughter, Elizabeth Schoolfield, one Negro Woman named, Clear and her daughter, Nell, as also one Hundred pounds Current money to be paid her out of my Estate.

4th.—I give and bequeath to my Daughter, Dolly Edmonston, all that part of a tract of Land called Bear Garden, Which was sold and conveyed to me by James Beale, containing Eight Acres, one Negro Woman named, Nan, and her daughter, Cassa.* and their increase, one Good Feather Bed

*It will interest the descendants of Mary A. E. Waters to know that the slave called "Cassa" in this will was the well known "Mammy Cassy" the nurse of two generations of the family, and that the slave called "Henny" was "Aunt Henny" the kitchen factotum for fifty years in the same household.—these two women, sisters, both died about 1875.

and furniture, one Horse and Saddle of the value of forty pounds and the sum of two hundred pounds Current Money to be paid out of my Estate.

5th.—I give and bequeath to my son, Thomas Edmonston, Fifty six pounds, Five shillings Current money to Be paid him out of my Estate and After my wife's Decease a Negro Woman named, Dill.

6th.—I give and bequeath to my two Grandchildren, to wit: Franklin Edmonston and Olivia Edmonston, as soon as they shall Respectively arrive at Lawful age, the Sum of Twenty Five dollars, Each, But in case of the death of Either before they have lawful Issue, the Survivor to have the other Share of him or her Dying. It is also my Will that Franklin Edmonston, my grandson, shall have three years schooling at the expense of my Estate and to have board in my house the same time, and Olivia, my Grand Daughter, one year's schooling in like manner.

7th.—I give and bequeath to my two Grandsons, to wit: Decious Edmonston and Brooke Edmonston, as soon as they Shall Arrive at Lawfull age, the sum of Twenty Five Dollars, each, But in case of the Death of either before they have Lawful Issue, the Survivor to have the Share of him Dying. It is also my Will that my said Grandsons, Decious and Brooke, Shall be Schooled and Bordered at the Expense of my Estate, as above mentioned, Decious to have two years and Brooke one of Schooling and Board.

8th.—It is my Will and desire that a tract of land Belonging to me Called, Edmonston's Enclosier, Containing $211\frac{3}{4}$ Acres may After Reasonable Notice, Be set up and sold to the best and highest Bidder by my Executrix herein After Named on a Credit of twelve months, and that the money Ariseing from such Sale be Applied as far as it will extend to the payment of my Debts and the Legacies Given by this, my last Will.

9th.—I give, Bequeath and Devise unto my Beloved Wife, Mary, the Land and plantation Whereon I now dwell, being part of two tracts one Called, Bear Garden and the other Deer Park Enlarged, Lying Northward of the lines Mentioned in my son, Eden's part, all the Residue of the said tracts not devised During her Natural life and after her Decease to my son, Robert Edmonston, and his heirs forever, upon the Express Condition that he, the said Robert, Shall Within twelve months after the Decease of his mother pay to his brothers, Edward and Eden, four hundred, that is to say, two hundred to each of them.

10th.—I give and Bequeath to my son, Edward, one Negro Lad named, Vachel, which he is not to receive until his Mother's Decease.

11th.—I give and bequeath to my son, Robert, one Negro Lad named, Harry, which he is not to Receive until his Mother's Decease.

12th.—It is also my Will that the Negros devised to my son, Eden, and my daughter, Dolly, Shall Remain in the service of my wife, Mary, During her Natural Life.

13th.—I give and bequeath to my Beloved Wife, Mary, to her and her Heirs Forever, one Negro Girl named, Henny, and her Increase.

14th.—It is also my Will that Rachel, a Mullato Girl, Shall be Sold if my Executrix Should think proper and the Money Arising from such sale to be applied to the use of my Estate.

15th.—I also give to my Said Wife, Whom I do hereby nominate and Appoint, the only and Sole Executrix of this my Last Will and Testament the use of all my personal property, During her Natural Life and after her Decease, my Will and desire is, that, Same may be divided Equally Between my five following children, to wit: Edward, Robert, Eden, Elizabeth and Dolly and After Revoking and Annuling all Wills by me heretofore

made and Declaring this and no other to be my last Will and Testament,
I have hereunto Set my hand and Seal the 30th day of January, 1805.

THOMAS EDMONSTON, SR. [Seal.]

Probate, 8th March, 1805.

Montgomery County, Md.

Subscribing witnesses thereto,

Josiah Jones.

James W. Perry.

Tyson Beall.

WILL OF MARY EDMONSTONE, MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD.
Wife of Thos. Edmonstone.

In the name of God, Amen. I, Mary Edmonstone, late of Montgomery County, in the State of Maryland, and at present on a visit to my children in Alexandria, being weak in Body, but of sound and perfect mind and memory, blessed be Almighty God for the same, do make and publish this my last will and Testament in manner and form following, Vizt.:

Imprimis.—It is my will that all my just debts and funeral charges be first paid by my Executor herein after named as soon as the same can be conveniently done.

First.—I give and bequeath to my Daughter, Dorothy Waters, my negro Girl named, Henny, now in her possession to hold her, her heirs and assigns forever. I give and bequeath to my Son, Eden Edmonstone, in his own right, my riding mare, saddle and bridle, as also all the rest, residue and remainder of my personal property, Goods and Chattels of what kind or nature soever, except my Cash and outstanding debts.

And Lastly, I give and bequeath to my Son, Robert Edmonstone, all the Cash I may be possessed of at my death, as also all my outstanding debts that may then be due or owing to me, whether principle, Interest, rents, Servants Hire or on any other account, or that may remain in his hands after he shall have paid and satisfied all just debts, dues and demands, that may be due by me, or against my Estate, and I do hereby nominate and appoint my said Son, Robert Edmonstone, my Sole Executor of this my last will and Testament, hereby revoking all former wills by me made. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this third day of October, in the year of our Lord, 1815.

MARY EDMONSTONE.

Probate Nov'r 4th, 1815.

Witnesses

Thos. Jacobs.

R. G. Lanphier.

George Jacobs.

Appended to this account of the Edmonstone family is a portion of a journal kept by the Rev'd John Orme who married Ruth, daughter of Col. Archibald Edmonstone. It is of such interest that the writer preserves it in the family annals.

“The following record was copied from the original paper written by Rev'd John Orme, now in the possession of L. L. English. John Orme came to this country in 1715, and estab-

lished the first Presbyterian Church in Baltimore County, Md., as will be seen by the Church Records:" T. M. Cassin.

"John Orme, V. D. M., was born Jan. 21st, 1691, as appears by the Register in England.

Ruth Orme, his wife, was born Sept. 22nd, 1705.

The said John Orme & Ruth Edmonstone were married by the Rev'd Mr. Hugh Conn, March 14th.

1.—Our first Son, John, was born Feb'y 13th, 1721/2; bap^{td} by myself at Marlborough, April 1st.

2.—Second Son, Archibald, born Nov'r 19th, 1723; bap^{ed} by myself Jan'y 19th, 1723/4; departed this life Nov'r 10, 1725, and was buried in the grave yard at Marlborough.

3.—First daughter, Hannah, born April 13th, 1726; bap^{ed} by myself, at Marlborough the following June; & Departed this life the following Dec'r 3rd, interred by her Brother.

4 and 5.—Third Son & second daughter born Jan'y 25th, 1727—the first at 3 Ock in the morning & the other $\frac{1}{4}$ hour after; bap^{ed} by myself at our own dwelling house the following Feb'y 6th, named James and Mary—the latter departed this life Oct. 2d, 1729, buried at Marlborough at the foot of her brother, Archibald.

6.—Fourth Son, Archibald, born June 1st, 1730; bap^{ed} by myself at Marlborough, July 13th.

7.—Third daughter Hannah, born April 19th, 1732; bap^{ed} by myself at Marlborough 6th Nov'r; died Jan'y 8th, 1733/4, buried Sabbath evening, South East corner of the Meeting House, close by & on the North side of Archibald Edmonstone.* I preached on that occasion on Monday from, 1 Cor.—7—31.

8.—Fourth daughter, Jane, born Oct. 25th, 1734; bap^{ed} by myself Nov'r following.

9 and 10.—Ninth and tenth children born Sep'tr 14th, 1737. The first, Elizabeth, $\frac{1}{4}$ past 2 Ocl^k in the morning. The second, Mary, $\frac{1}{4}$ past 4 Ock; bap^{ed} by myself on the same day, both being seized with convulsions—the latter died at 4 Ock same afternoon, buried at Meeting House yard at Marlborough, about 6 Ock afternoon.

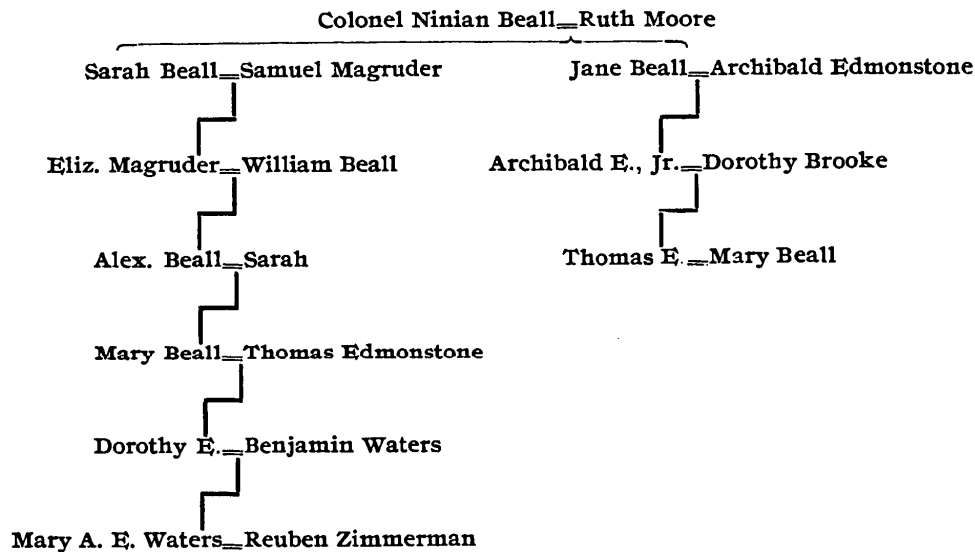
11.—Seventh daughter, Septima, born ———; was bap^{ed} June ———.

12.—Eighth daughter, Octava, born April 9th, 1743; bap^{td} following May 29th.

13.—Fifth son, Ebenezer, born 13th September, 1745; bap^{td} by myself."

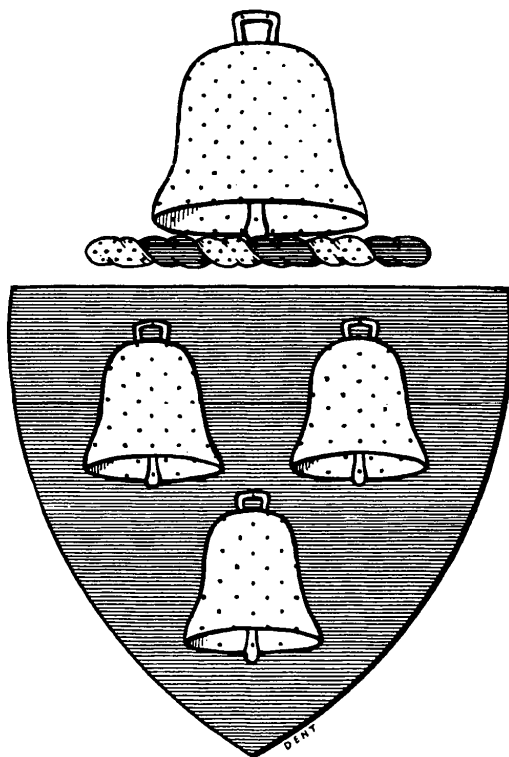
*The meeting house at Marlborough referred to in this record is without doubt the one built upon the land deeded the Presbyterians by Colonel Ninian Beall. Not only Colonel Archibald Edmonstone, but many more collateral relatives must have been buried there. Of these graves there is now no trace.

BEALL



An account of Ninian Beall, the first of the family line of Bealls in Maryland, is necessarily incomplete because of the lack of exact knowledge of his early life. In his maturer years, he figures prominently in Maryland State Records, and from these can be gleaned the Colonial career of this most interesting ancestor, who, as fighter of Indians, civil officer, manufacturer, and promoter of the Presbyterian faith, lived to a great age with strength and faculties unimpaired far beyond the allotted time. There are various traditions concerning his early manhood, none of which are authenticated. He was born in 1625, according to a deposition made by him, and, it is generally believed, in Fifeshire, Scotland. But that careful genealogist, Mrs. Hester Dorsey Richardson, gives Stirlingshire as his birthplace. In Stirlingshire is the Rock of Dumbarton and the best known of his many tracts of land in Maryland bears that name. One of his earliest patents of land was called Ringan or St. Ninian. His being named after that saint implies Catholic ancestry, but, however, that may have been, the known records of his career show him to have been an ad-

BEALL



Beall

Bell (Beall) Scotland.

Arms—Azure, three bells or.

Crest—A bell or.

Ency. of Heraldry, Burke.

herent of the old Scotch Presbyterian faith. That his name was originally Bell rather than Beall seems probable, and Mrs. Richardson places him as of the line of Robert Bell of 1427. There is a well grounded belief that he was in the Scottish army, and at the battle of Dunbar, where Cromwell routed the Scottish forces.

History records that many Scots were taken prisoners at that time, and that many were sold and sent to the Barbadoes and to the American Colonies. As the battle of Dunbar took place in 1650 and Ninian Beall arrived in Maryland in 1658 the intervening years may have been spent in imprisonment. They were probably years of great hardship and suffering. His will indicates that he was a loyal subject of the Stuarts all his life. That he reached these shores a poor man is evidenced by his period of servitude to Richard Hall, Calvert County. "Came Ninian Beall of Calvert County, Planter, and proved right to fifty acres of land for his time of service performed with Richard Hall of same county" Jan. 16th, 1667. "In the 17th Century servant meant any employee, as apprentice, secretary, clerk, etc. Servant did not mean a menial as now." Wm. and Mary Quarterly, Vol. 1st.

The above date describes him as a planter and that same year (1667) two other tracts of land "Ringan." March 19th and "Callender" Oct. 2nd were surveyed for him in Calvert County. From that time until his death, the records of his gradually acquired tracts of land make a goodly showing, and they (his lands) stretched from Calvert County up into what is now Montgomery County, Md. Many of these tracts received names in memory of the old country, such as "Dundee," "Fife," "St. Andrews," "Collington," "Pentland Hills,"—also those already mentioned, "Ringan," "Callender" and "Rock of Dumbarton."

To quote from a speech delivered by the Rev'd Stephen Balch of Georgetown, D. C., "Ninian Beall was fonder of land than of sea, for he seems to have set down a kind of McGregor foot on the soil of Maryland."

With the peaceful acquiring of land, a strong taste for a stirring life is shown by his record found in the Maryland Archives. His early years in the Scottish army gave him a love of fighting that only lessened with declining years. As one writer says of him, he was busy fighting Indians the most of his life. His military career in the Colony seems to have commenced with the following commission. "Cap't. Cood, command'r of the Lord Proprietor's yatch, the Loyall

Charles of Maryland, ordered to the Potomac River with the 'Yacht or Vessel' to cruise from the head thereof to the mouth thereof" to protect the Province from "the inroad or invasion of any Robbers, Pyrates, Spies, etc., etc." 8th Nov., 1676. "And I doe hereby constitute and appoint Ninion Beale, your Lievetenant in the said Yacht or Vessel, who is hereby also authorized and empowered to act, doe and performe in all things as your Lievetenant as amply, fully and largely to all Intents and purposes as if he had read a Speciall Commission drawne to that purpose. Vol. 17, p. 217.—Maryland Archives,

Aug. 19th, 1678, "Capt. Ninian Beall ordered to range with 30 men at the head of Patuxent River for fear of Piscattaway Indians." Maryland Archives, Vol. 15, p. 181. From this date he seems to have been frequently engaged in the protection of the frontier from the incursions of Indians. "By his Ldspes especiall comand power is given to Captⁿ Ninion Beale, of Calvert County, to press man and horse at anytime upon any urgent occasion of Indians comeing into your parts or other emergent business to press a man and horse to give what speedy Intelligence thereof, possibly you can, to his Ldsp for which this shall be your sufficient warrant. Dated at St. Maries, the 13th day of January, Anno Dmi. 1681. Signed p ord^r and appointmt of the Rt. hon'ble, the Lord Prop^r, To Capt. Ninian Beall." "Ordered also at the same time, that six men in Arms under the Command of Capt. Ninian Beale be commanded out to continue Ranging betweene the head of Pottuxen River and the branches thereabouts up to the Susquehannogh ffort for the discovery of any Indian Enemy that may appeare, etc." Maryland Archives, Vol. 17.

Dec. 1st, 1684, he was appointed deputy surveyor of Charles County, Sept. 15th, 1686, "Officer for Mount Calvert Town," and later, High Sheriff of Calvert County. Maryland Archives. In 1689, his ranging extended to the keeping of Virginians on their own side of the Potomac, as well as constant vigilance against the incursions of Indians, and it is pleasant to picture to one's self the hale old man already sixty-four years of age, and tradition says, of great stature, ranging the woods day by day, in pursuit of enemies.

"You are hereby commanded to keep ten or twelve men in Arms to Range the woods betweene patuxen and patomack . . . And likewise to have a Deligent Eye upon the motions of the Virginians, and if they should attempt a landing on this side to use your Endeavor to prevent their Attempts, And signify the same to the Council with all speed . . . To

Maj. Ninian Beale, March 28th, 1689. Maryland Archives, Vol. 8.

In 1689 commenced the Protestant Revolution in Maryland and in this Ninian Beale took an active part. Writers on the subject differ greatly in their opinions as to the wisdom or justice of this rebellion against the Proprietary (Lord Baltimore), and his supposed papist rule, but we can well believe that a man of Ninian Beall's character and position would not have gone into it, unless actuated by religious zeal and a desire for the welfare of the colony. Opposition to Catholicism was in his Scotch blood. Fortunately for him, the revolutionists were at least tacitly sustained by the crown, and when his work for his party was ended he seems to have resumed the fighting of Indians.

Lionel Copley, the new Royal Governor, arrived in Maryland in April, 1692, and the following correspondence shows that Ninian Beall was in accord with the new government. "May 19th, 1692. Western Branch. May it Please your Excellency, I am Just now going up and will be as Careful as I can till further Orders from your Honor and Council. I do intend to keep out Ranging back of the Plantations till further Orders, in hast, I remain your excellency's servant to Command, whilst I am Ninian Beall. To his Excellency, the Capt. Genl and Chief Governor in and over the Province of Maryland." "By his Excellency, the Governor and Council, May 20th, 1692. Major Beall. Yours of the 19th Instant, in relation to the Indians is come to hand and hath passed the Consideration of this Board, for your care therein you are commended and herewith receive thanks with due directions also, to Continue your diligence in Ranging for the security of the Frontiers, etc., etc." Maryland Archives, Vol. 13.

In this same year (1692), he was made Colonel and Commander-in-Chief "of all their Majesty's forces of Militia in Calvert County," was ordered to "afford all necessary aid and assistance to Collo Nicholas Greenberry and all other persons concerned in the erecting and setting up the Several Forts," and continued his duties as deputy surveyor. Increasing age evidently made no change in his active stirring life. In 1694 a commission showing confidence in his ability and discretion, was given him by the colonial Governor. It "being Represented in Councill that Collonell Ninian Beale has allwayes been a person very ready and Serviceable upon Comotions or insurrections made by the Indians and that he is Seated convenient at the head of Petuxent River to give notice and raise Men

upon all such incident and Emergent Occasions. And for as much as his Majties by his Royall Instruction to his Execncy has Commanded that fiting Officers should be Appointed at the heads of Rivers, to the Sd End & Purpose, Ordered thereupon that the Sd Collonell Beale have a particular Comission for his Execncy to raise and Comand what Men he thinkes fit in all the neighborhood in those parts upon all Occasions of such Comotions & insurrections, so soone as the same shall come to his knowledge." Maryland Archives.

From 1696, when seventy-one years of age, and for some years after, he represented Prince George County, Md., in the General Assembly, but his fighting days were not entirely over, for there is a record of his ranging "frontier plantations on the Potomac River," July 22d, 1699. July 14th, 1699, the General Assembly took into consideration "An Act of Gratuity to Col. Beal" presented in the following form, "The Consideration of this Subject brings into remembrance the many signall Services and Laborious Endeavours of Coll. Ninian Beale one of ye members wch he still Continues willingly, Even beyond what his age seems Capable of, therefore, that good Services may not goe unrewarded & that others in time to Come may be Encouraged thereby to Exert there abilityes in the Countrys Service, It is recommended to your Consideration to make him some allowance out of the Publick Stock to the value of one hundred or soe much money as will buy him four negroes, etc., etc." This act was amended and "three good Serviceable Negro slaves for the Proper use and benefit of him the said Colonel Beall" were bought. This queer testimonial of gratitude was exempt from taxes.

No account of Ninian Beall would be complete without a reference to his services to the Presbyterian church which he was largely instrumental in establishing on the Western Shore. During the time that he was in the Assembly, most of the important acts were passed which resulted in the establishment of the Church of England as the established church in Maryland. He signed, in 1699, the petition of the colonists to William III., asking for this, but as he was at the same time working for the presbytery, it is fair to presume that the fact that the Act of Establishment allowed tolerance to dissenters, weighed with him, and as a matter of policy and for the good of the colony at large, he may have voted as he did. Briggs in "American Presbyterianism" gives an account of his (Colonel Beall's) connection with the first Presbyterian church in Western Maryland, from which I quote. To "Francis

Doughty and Matthew Hill, long forgotten worthies, the Presbyterian church in the Middle States is indebted for its first planting . . . Wm. Durand was ruling elder among the Puritans during the times of Doughty and Hill. He was succeeded by Col. Ninian Beall. Col. Beall was a contemporary of Matthew Hill and lived to see the establishment of the first American Presbytery. He is probably the 'ancient comely man' an elder amongst the Presbyterians who entertained the Quaker, Thomas Wilson, in 1691." Thomas Wilson writes "As we were traveling, met with two men, one of whom being an ancient, comely man, kindly invited us to his house, where we staid two nights and had a meeting though he was an elder amongst the Presbyterians. He also lent us his boat to go over the Potomac River." Friends Library, Vol. 11., Phila. 1838)." "He (Ninian Beall) was the neuclus of Presbyterianism on the Patuxent during the last quarter of the 17th century."

"The Presbyterians on the Patuxent were kept together by their godly elder, Colonel Ninian Beall, from the time of Matthew Hill until the arrival of Nathaniel Taylor. This congregation on the Patuxent had no church building, although they had a venerable ruling elder, Ninian Beall. The name of Nathaniel Taylor first appears in a deed of gift of Ninian Beall. He gave half an acre of land 'for ye erecting and building a house for ye service of almighty God,' Nov. 20th, 1704. Colonel Ninian Beall thus overlaps Matthew Hill and Nathaniel Taylor and is the connecting link with Mr. Durand, the elder, who led the persecuted Puritans from Nansemond, Va., to the Patuxent, Maryland."

The following deed is recorded at Prince George's County, Maryland.

November Court, 1704. Ninian Beall to Nath'l Taylor.

To all Christian peoples to whome these presents shall come, I, Ninian Beall of Prince George's County in the province of Maryland send greeting: Know ye that I, the said Ninian Beall, being of a good and perfect mind, and without any fraud or deceit, for divers good causes and considerations, me thereunto moving, but more especially for ye propagation of ye gospel of Jesus Christ, have given, granted and confirmed and by these presents doo freely, voluntarily and absolutely give, grant and confirm unto Nathaniell Taylor, Minister of ye Gospel, and to Robert Bradley, James Stoddard, John Battie, Archibold Edmunson, Thomas Beall, Senior, Thomas Beall, Junior, Ninian Beall, Junior, Charles Beall, Christopher Thompson, Joshua Hall, John Browne, John Henry, James Beall, Alexander Beall, William Ophett (Offutt), John Soaper and to their successors for ye erecting and building of a house for ye service of Almighty God. That parcell of Land being part of a Tract of Land called, the meddows, lying on ye western Branch of the Patuxent River in Prince

George's County. Beginning (here follows a description of the measurements of the tract, so many perches, etc., which are not easy to make out) containing half an acre of land, be it more or less, To Have and to Hold ye said land and tenament unto the said Nathaniell Taylor, Robert Bradley, James Stoddard, John Battie, Archibald Edmunson, Thomas Beall, Senior, Thomas Beall, Junior, Ninian Beall, Junior, Charles Beall, Christopher Thompson, Joshua Hall, John Browne, John Henry, James Beall, Alexander Beall, William Ophett, John Soaper and to their successors for (illegible) their own proper use, for ye aforesaid use and no other, from the day of the date to hold for ever peaceably, quietly without any manner of reclaim of me, ye said Ninian Beall—and I, ye said Ninian Beall, have put ye said Nathaniell Taylor, Robert Bradly, James Stoddard, John Battie, Archibald Edmunson, Thomas Beall, Senior, Thomas Beall, Junior, Ninian Beall, Junior, Charles Beall, Christopher Thompson, Joshua Hall, John Browne, John Henry, James Beall, Alexander Beall, William Ophett, John Soaper, into peaceable possession by the delivery of a piece of money called sixpence. I have paid and delivered unto ye said Nathaniell Taylor in behalf of himself and the rest of the above named persons, this day and date thereof. In witness of which, I have hereunto set my hand and seals ye 20th day of November, Anno. 1704.

NINIAN BEALL.

Signed, sealed and delivered in the presence of us,
John Wight.
Sam'l Magruder.

On this gift of land a chapel was built. While all traces of it have long since gone, it was known to have been in the present town of Upper Marlborough, Prince George County, Md., and Bacon's Laws of Maryland gives some notes that incline one to the belief that the present site of the graveyard of St. Paul's church also included the Presbyterian graveyard. In Chapter 18 (1753) is an act "to levy on the Taxable Inhabitants of St. Paul's Parish for £100 for Railing in the Grave Yards and Repairing Church and Chapel." A "chapel" is mentioned as early as 1744, and in chapter 25 (1744) is, "an Act for laying out the Town a-new, commonly called Upper Marlborough, No. 12. The Lot heretofore bought and set apart for the Meeting house shall not be liable to be taken up, but remain for the use of the Dissenting Minister."

Appended to the Edmonstone genealogy is an interesting record written by the Rev. John Orme, pastor of this church in 1720. In the graveyard about this church or "Meeting house" rest two, if not more, of our ancestors.*

*The writer has several times visited this spot in Marlborough, seeking some trace of the old ancestral graves. About St. Paul's church is still a graveyard by no means full of graves. The old meeting house may have been to the right of the present church. That St. Paul's is built upon the tract of land called The Meddows one half acre of which "more or less" Colonel Ninian Beall gave for the meeting house, seems to be conceded. The writer would like to believe, that on or near that peaceful spot, St. Paul's church yard, was the last resting place of our fine Scotch ancestors.

Two extracts from an article on Ninian Beall in the Presbyterian Review, Vol. 9, end what the writer can gather concerning his connection with that faith.

"It is said that he (Ninian Beall), presented a handsome communion service to the Church on the Patuxent. It was made in 1707. The service was sent to the Church at Bladensburg, originally part of the Patuxent Parish, after the Church at Upper Marlborough was abandoned. Part of the service has been lost, but two chalices and a handsome tankard remain in use by the church which is now located at Hyattsville. It is, so far as is known the oldest communion service of any Presbyterian Church."

"We have tried to gather up some fragments that remain of his (Ninian Beall's), history believing that our Church ought not to allow the memory of one of her earliest founders, one who was a tower of strength in the days of her feebleness, to perish in oblivion."

His wife was **Ruth Moore**, daughter of Richard Moore, who, as shown by the Maryland Immigration list came to Maryland in 1652 with his wife, Jane, and children. The Maryland Archives disclose but little information concerning him, but the following power of attorney shows him to have lived on the Patuxent, that river so intimately associated with the names of our ancestors. "Know all men by these presents, that I, George Ketchmeyer, of Virginia, doe Ordaine and make my Loving friend, Mr. Richard Moore, of Patuxtent, my true and Lawfull Attorney, for me and in my name, etc., etc." Maryland Archives, Vol. 10, p. 367.

According to a deposition of his wife's, a copy of which is given further on, Richard Moore died in 1654.

In 1704, at the age of 79 or 80 years, Colonel Beall was still a member of the Maryland Assembly, and his interest in protecting the frontier from Indians was evidently unabated, for, Feb. 21st, 1704, he brought to the Council a strange Indian, who had been captured by his son, Charles. Captain Charles Beall succeeded his father in command of the Rangers, but the following shows that he was hardly his father's worthy successor. Apr. 9th, 1705, the Council questions whether in time of danger the Rangers ought not to be "Put under the conduct of a more knowing person than Lt. Charles Beall, not having done his duty with any Sort of Discipline or Sense in relation to the Apprehending or Secureing, Richard Clark." Apr. 10, 1705, the Council declares, "as to Lt. Charles Beall,

mismanagement in relation to Clark, his Excellency & the Boarde are willing to pass the same for his ffather's sake. Maryland Archives, Vol. 25.

Colonel Beall's last years were spent peacefully, we can believe, upon his estate, "The Rock of Dumbarton." There are several records in the Maryland Archives that show, that in his active years his home was at the head of the Patuxent River, but in 1703, he received the above grant of land which was upon Rock Creek and included much of the present Georgetown, D. C. Dumbarton Avenue in the heart of the town perpetuates the name. The exact site of his home on this tract of land is not known, a fact much to be regretted. His son, Colonel George Beall, inherited much of this land, and in 1751, the Legislature of Maryland provided for the laying out of George-town upon part of it. The name is supposed to have been given in honor of Col. George Beall, but opinions concerning this, differ. His tomb, and that of his wife, Elizabeth Brooke, are still to be seen in an old deserted Presbyterian graveyard of the town.

Col. Ninian Beall left a most interesting will, and from it, it is judged that his great estate of lands and slaves were mostly apportioned among his heirs before his death. Twelve children are supposed to have been the issue of his marriage to Ruth Moore, but the writer gives only the names of those she has found in the records of Prince George County, Md.

Thomas, died in England in 1708.

John, married Joan, widow of George Reid.

Charles, married Mary ———.

George, married Elizabeth Brooke, daughter of Roger Brooke, Sr.

Hester, married Joseph Belt.

Rachel, married ——— Offutt.

Ninian, married Elizabeth Magruder, daughter of Alex. Magruder, Sr.

Mary, married Andrew Hambleton.

Sarah, married Samuel Magruder. (See Magruder).

Jane, married Archibald Edmonstone. (See Edmonstone).

Margery, married Thomas Sprigg.

A quotation from the Baltimore Sun of January 31, 1904, finishes the account of this most interesting ancestor. "Col. Ninian Beall lived to be 92 years of age. That he was a man of rare breadth of vision, his charity to all men bears witness. He was buried on his home plantation, and when in recent years his remains were dug up, owing to the growth of Georgetown, where his home was situated, it was found that he was six feet, seven inches tall, and his Scotch red hair had retained all of its fiery hue."